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claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of
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(54) Title: LIQUID COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING STABILITY ENHANCING SURFACTANTS AND A METHOD OF ENHANCING LOW TEMPERATURE STABILITY THEREOF

(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to lamellar structured liquid cleansing compositions comprising 5 % to 50 % of a surfactant system comprising (a) an anionic or mixture of anionics and (b) an amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant in mixture, wherein alkalimetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 25 % to 90 % of component (b). A method of enhancing low temperature stability of such lamellar structured liquid cleansing compositions by the selection of an alkalimetal alkylamphoacetate in an amount of 25 % to 90 % of the component (b) is provided. Excellent low temperature stability is achieved.

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CLAIMS

1. A lamellar structured liquid cleansing composition comprising 5% to 50% of a surfactant system comprising:

- 5 (a) anionic or mixture of anionic surfactants; and
(b) an amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant or mixture thereof;

wherein alkalimetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 25% to 90% of component (b).

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2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein alkalimetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 30 to 90% of component (b).

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3. A composition according to claim 2, wherein alkalimetal amphoacetate comprises 40% to 90% of component (b).

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4. A composition according to claim 1, wherein anionic is selected from the group consisting of alkyl sulfates, acyl isethionates and mixtures thereof.

5. A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) comprises 0.1% to 25% betaine.

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6. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition additionally comprises 0% to 10% of nonionic surfactant.

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7. A method of enhancing low temperature stability of a lamellar structured liquid cleansing composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein said method comprises selecting the amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant component (b) such that alkalimetal alkyl amphoacetate comprises 25% to

35

90% of component (b).

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Liquid compositions comprising stability enhancing surfactants and a method of enhancing low temperature stability thereof

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The Claims defining the invention are as follows:

1. A lamellar structured liquid cleansing composition comprising 5% to 50% of a surfactant system comprising:
 - 5 a) anionic or mixture of anionic surfactants; and
 - b) an amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant or mixture thereof;wherein alkalimetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 25% to 90% of component (b); and
 - 10 c) a structurant selected from liquid fatty acids comprising oleic acid, isostearic acid, linoleic acid, ricinoleic acid, elaidic acid, arichodonic acid, myristoleic acid, palmitoleic acid and mixtures thereof, or
 - 15 polyalkylene glycol fatty acid esters comprising propylene glycol isostearate, propylene glycol oleate, glyceryl isostearate, glyceryl oleate, polyglyceryl diisostearate, and mixtures thereof.
- 20 2. A composition according to Claim 1 wherein alkalimetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 30 to 90% of component (b).
3. A composition according to Claim 2, wherein alkalimetal alkylamphoacetate comprises 40% to 90% of components (b).
- 25 4. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the anionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alkyl sulfates, acyl isethionates and mixtures thereof.
- 30 5. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein component (b) comprises 0.1% to 25% betaine.



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6. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition additionally comprises 0% to 10% of nonionic surfactant.

5 7. A method of enhancing low temperature stability of a lamellar structured cleansing composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said method comprises selecting the amphoteric and/or zwitterionic surfactant component (b) such that alkalimetal alkyl amphotoacetate comprises 25% to 90% of
10 component (b).

8. A method according to Claim 7, wherein alkalimetal alkylamphotoacetate comprises 30% to 90% of component (b).

15 9. A method according to Claim 8, wherein alkali metal alkylamphotoacetate comprises 40% to 90% of component (b).

10. A method according to any one of Claims 7 to 9 wherein the lamellar structured liquid cleansing composition
20 comprises one or more of the components of Claims 4 to 6.

11. A composition as hereinbefore described with reference to the examples.

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UNILEVER PLC

By Its Patent Attorneys
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